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VOL. II NO. 113

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 1947.

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The Hongkong Telegraph

ALL OF BRITAIN ON FUEL RESTRICTIONS

Country Goes Back To Wartime Footing

SITUATION "DANGEROUSLY CRITICAL"

London, Feb. 12.

The Government, acting under wartime emergency powers, tonight extended electricity restrictions to all England, Scotland and Wales, ordered gas sentences and fines of violators and announced a series of drastic manpower and transport measures to speed movement of coal to Britain's fuel-starved power stations.

The announcement from No 10 Downing Street said that the Prime Minister, Mr Clement Attlee, had established a joint committee of Cabinet Ministers and Coal, electricity and railway executives and ordered this committee to work to overcome the crisis with "the same speed and urgency as a military operation during the war."

"The meeting was advised that the situation remains dangerously critical," the announcement said.

The Joint Committee—comprising a General Staff in wartime—decided on the following measures:

1. Restrictions on domestic electricity consumption will be applied to all England, Scotland and Wales from tomorrow morning. The restricted hours to be 9.30 a.m. to 11.30 a.m. and 1.30 p.m. to 3.30 p.m. in the Middle East and North-east of England and throughout Scotland, and from 9 a.m. to noon and 2 to 4 p.m. in the remainder of the country.
2. Domestic consumers who violate restrictions will be punished under Defence Regulation 55, which provides for gas sentences or fines or both. No specific sentences were mentioned, however.
3. There shall be no ban on industrial electricity consumption in the newly-affected areas of Scotland and north-east, mid-east and south-west England.
4. Consumption of any form of fuel for dog-racing shall be prohibited immediately under Defence Regulation 55.
5. Railway passenger services, including night expresses where necessary, shall be cancelled wherever such action will permit the running of extra coal trains.
6. All possible steps, including the discharge of coal in London docks not normally used by colliers, shall be taken immediately to speed the turn-around of colliers in the Thames.

POWER TO REQUISITION SUPPLIES

7. The Labour Minister, Mr George Isaacs, after consulting Trade Unions, shall immediately organise a supply of additional civilian labour to help unload coal cars. The co-operation of the Army, Navy and Air Force also will be secured.
8. The Transport Minister, Mr Alfred Barnes, will arrange immediately for a supply of trucks to assist in unloading of coal cars.
9. The Fuel Minister, Mr Emmanuel Shawell, was authorised to exercise power to requisition coal supplies where it is necessary to divert coal from the original consignee in order to insure a more rapid turn-around of coal cars.
10. Electric supply plants were authorised to reduce their voltage by five per cent, both during the day and night, in order to save power.
11. Mr Shinwell and Mr Barnes were authorised to call in Service personnel and transport and to take all other steps to speed movement of open coal stock on the ground.
12. It is impossible to tell when electricity restrictions may be relaxed, but industrial consumers will be given priority over domestic users when restrictions are eased.

IDLENESS TO SPREAD, PREDICTION

Warning that coal supplies for gas industries were diminishing past the danger point, the Ministry of Fuel and Power called for "really serious economy" to guarantee gas stocks for bakeries and other essential industries, reports Associated Press.

As in the case of electricity, many millions are entirely dependent upon gas—made from coal—for home heating.

Coal savings resulting from electricity cuts on Tuesday, second day of the blackout order, totalled 24,500 tons—2,000 tons more than on Monday—Ministry officials announced.

With a major portion of the nation's economy disrupted unemployment figures rose sharply. Between 5,000,000 and 6,000,000 men already have been thrown into idleness, a Board of Trade spokesman estimated.

Predicting idleness will spread still further, he added: "people do not yet realise the serious personal effect this will have on everyone."

For the third successive day prices on the London stock exchange sank lower. Faced with mounting losses, industrialists served statutory notice on idle employees of plans to discontinue payment of guaranteed minimum wages this week.

"This is going to affect rationing, clothing, household appliances, shoes—everything," said one Board of Trade official, adding, "most of the goods we are living on are stocks and since the war there has been practically nothing in the supply pipeline. Even if the crisis ended tomorrow—and it definitely will not—there will be increasing scarcity while the lost output is being made good."

The situation was almost as bad in Northern Ireland where many train services were cancelled, coal supplies dwindled still further, and work schedules for 100,000 linen workers were reduced to three weeks in four.

There were a few bright spots in the dismal picture. Leaders of the Transport and General Workers Union—largest labour union in the world—urged its members to make every effort to maintain a continuous flow of coal supplies. Associated Press.

In a further despatch, United Press states that 38 colliers, carrying 70,000 tons of coal to power-starved London and Northeast England, sailed from Northeastern ports into the teeth of a howling blizzard, en route to London.

Throughout Britain, thousands of British and Polish troops and German prisoners of war worked to clear snow-clogged highways. Army

trucks skidded along icy roads to coal mines.

Radars-equipped warships escorted coal ships through the stormy North Sea toward London. Normally, it takes 36 hours for colliers to run from the Tyne to the Thames, but the captains of the hardy little ships calculated at least a 48-hour passage to-day.

Seventeen coal trains were en route to London from the north, carrying approximately 6,500 tons. But even 70,000 tons of coal going to London and Southeast will show little more than a glow for the industrial furnaces which have been blocked out throughout England.

The same news agency reports that the Food Minister, Mr John Strachey, today delayed his departure for the United States and Canada until next week to keep watch on Britain's food supplies during the fuel crisis.

To save travelling time, Mr Strachey will go by air. Originally he was to have departed by ship this week.

Replying to a question in the House of Commons to-day, Dr Edith Summerskill, Parliamentary Secretary to the Ministry of Food, said she was "satisfied" that Britons could maintain their 2,000 calorie level by sprinkling their daily diet liberally with unrationed foods.

DECISION ON ARMAMENTS

Lake Success, Feb. 13.

The United Nations Security Council voted 9 to 0 to-day to create a commission to study the reduction of all armaments except those already being examined by the United Nations Atomic Energy Commission. Associated Press.

Palestine Parleys Collapse

Case May Be Sent To United Nations

London, Feb. 12.

The final breakdown of the Palestine Conference came today when the Foreign Secretary, Mr Ernest Bevin, told the Arab delegates at the resumed conference that the British Government had been trying to find a middle course in the Palestine problem but had met with no spirit of compromise on either side.

Mr Bevin regretfully said that he would have to report the failure to reach any agreement to the British Cabinet on Friday, and that he would like to meet the Arab delegations once more to convey to them the Cabinet's views.

It was agreed therefore that the conference should have one more session on Friday afternoon.

Mr Bevin told the Arab delegations that if the two parties could not settle the problem by themselves and if they would not accept the proposals which had been made by the British delegation, he thought the Government would probably have to submit the whole matter to the United Nations. —Reuter.

GIVES UP COMMAND

Jerusalem, Feb. 12.

General Sir Evelyn Barker, General Officer Commanding the British troops in Palestine, is reliably reported to-day to have relinquished his command and left by air for Cairo on his way to Britain.

His successor, Major-General G. A. MacMillan, is expected to reach Palestine by air to-morrow.

Both General Barker and General MacMillan are reported to be dining to-night with General Sir Miles Dempsey, Commander-in-Chief of the Middle East Forces.

Before General Barker's departure from Palestine was known, it was announced that he had granted an "indefinite" respite in the death sentence imposed on the Hungarian Jew, Dov Gruner, for his attack on a Palestine police station.

To-day, Major Collins, who was kidnapped and held for four days by Jewish terrorists as a hostage for Gruner, left hospital where he has been since his release on January 30, and moved into one of the barred wire security zones in Jerusalem, which the local Jewish press describes as "British ghettoes."

The illegal immigrant ship reported to have been intercepted by British destroyers off Haifa was still "somewhere in the Mediterranean late to-day," according to official sources in Jerusalem.

LATEST THREAT

Jerusalem, Feb. 12.

The "Voice of Fighting Zion," Jewish terrorist radio, said to-night that the British "would be punished" for causing the death of an illegal Jewish immigrant on the schooner La Neve, brought into Haifa by the Royal Navy on Sunday. —Reuter.

STOP PRESS

RICE RIOT IN SHANGHAI

Shanghai, Feb. 13.

A crowd of Chinese raided a rice shop in Shanghai this morning, and over the protests of the employees, seized most of the stocks. This is the first of the so-called "rice riots" which shopkeepers feared as a result of high prices and scarcity of commodities. —Associated Press.

Dover Losing White Cliffs

Dover, Feb. 12.

It is estimated that a quarter of a million tons of the White Cliffs of Dover have tumbled into the sea near the Kent beauty spot of St Margaret's Bay, between Deal and Dover.

Last night a landslide of the familiar chalk cliff, about 150 yards long, 30 feet deep and 200 feet high, occurred.

St Margaret's Bay, a small cove at the bottom of the cliff and reached by a mile-long winding hill was heavily shelled by German cross-channel guns during the war and later its shell-torn houses and beaches were used as a Commando training ground.

The war shakeup and Arctic weather are believed to be responsible for the landslide but falls are fairly frequent, however, around the whole chalk cliff belt of England. —Reuter.

QUESTION ON HK AIRFIELD

"Difficult Problems"

London, Feb. 12.

A question was asked in the House of Commons to-day concerning the construction of an airfield in Hongkong.

Colonel Rees Williams (Lab) asked the Secretary of State for the Colonies what progress was being made with the construction of an airfield at Hongkong capable of being used by large aircraft.

Mr Creech Jones replied: "This matter is still under consideration. The decision involves difficult technical and financial problems. Col. Rees Williams, who recently visited Malaya, also suggested that in view of the need of fresh fish to supplement the rice ration in Malaya and that Malay fishermen were short of fishing equipment, the Colonial Secretary should give them financial assistance necessary to make good this deficiency."

The Colonial Secretary, Mr Creech Jones, replied: "Every effort is being made to supply fishermen in Malaya with the necessary equipment to enable them to increase their catches and a special missioner for Southeast Asia is paying particular attention to this matter."

Mr D. N. T. Pritt, Independent Labour Member, asked what recommendations the committee appointed by the Governor of the Malayan Union to consider application to Malaya of the principles in his department's memorandum on organization of the Colonial Service, has made for bridging the gap between the salary rates of European and Asiatic officers.

Mr Creech Jones replied: "I am informed that the Governor has not yet received any recommendation on the subject."

Army And Navy To Cost More

New Estimates

London, Feb. 12.

The British Government revised upward by £70,000,000 on Wednesday the estimated cost of maintaining its far-flung army and navy during the year ending March 31, 1947, a period marked by international tension.

Supplementary estimates published as White Papers placed the combined total cost at £1,007,075,000.

The army's estimate was increased by £50,000,000 to £732,000,000. The navy's was increased by £20,000,000 to £275,075,000.

The army's White Paper said that an estimated 65,000 men were required for service in addition to the number previously estimated. Informal sources said that Britain had an £475,000,000 men at the close of 1946. The Royal Air Force is a separate entity and none of the figures announced apply to it.

The paper officially attributed only £17,000,000 of the additionally estimated expenditure to the fact that Britain was required to carry out the "tasks overseas as rapidly as had been hoped."

WAR GRATUITIES

Original estimates, the paper said, were made before the Government decided to pay out £37,000,000 in war gratuities and postwar credits during the current fiscal year. First estimates also did not take into account £14,000,000 needed for the Polish resettlement corps, a unit established several months ago to prepare expatriate Polish soldiers for British civilian life. In addition, £2,000,000 was attributed to new rates of pay, bonus payments to re-enlistment and "reassessment" of retired pay and pensions.

The White Paper also reported a decrease in the receipts from the sale of stores to dominion and Allied Governments, which are now expected to amount to £32,000,000, as against the original estimate of £32,000,000.

A speed up in the repatriation of German prisoners of war, depriving the army of their earnings and services, cost an additional £15,000,000, the document said.

The navy White Paper said that £6,700,000 more was needed for service pay, £8,800,000 for civil/personnel wages at dockyards and shore establishments and £10,300,000 for war gratuities and postwar credits to personnel.

Both the army and navy said that their expenditures in some fields would not reach the total originally estimated. —Associated Press.

Canton Ammunition Dump Blows Up

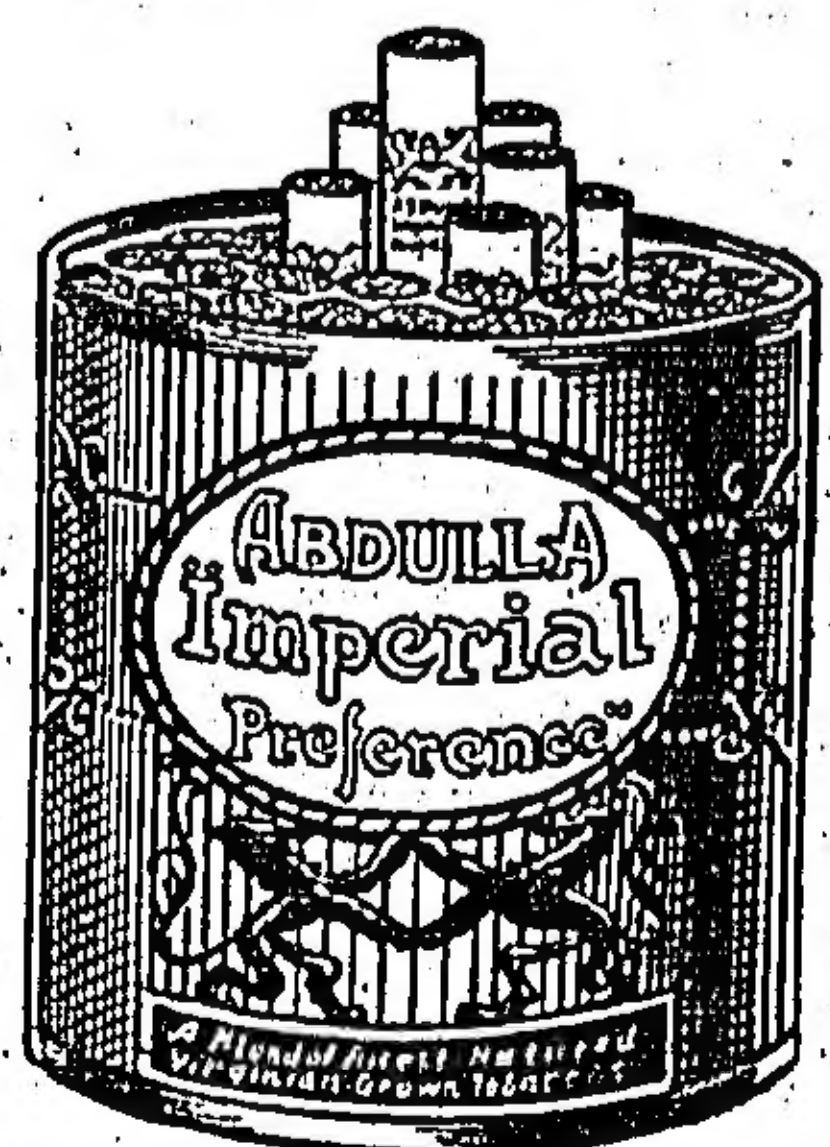
Canton, Feb. 13.

An ammunition dump at Fong Cheun, Canton blew up this morning. It is reported that several people were injured. Further details are awaited. —Associated Press.

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Lad Admits Murder

Manchester, Feb. 12.

A 16-year-old labourer suddenly told the Manchester Juvenile Court to-day that he strangled Sheila Gowrie, 10-year-old victim in one of Britain's two recent "one shoe" murders.

The youth, Joseph Gibson, was charged with murder after he told the Court: "I have nothing to say. It is true."

The police said the boy made a voluntary statement on the crime, but added that it would not be made public at present.

The magistrate, Mr J. Wellesley Orr, ordered Gibson held in custody and approved a psychiatric examination of the boy. Gibson was arrested last night at a farm house near Wintars, Derbyshire, where he worked as a labourer. —United Press.

China's Currency

ACTION IS PROMISED

Nanking, Feb. 12.

The Minister of Information, Mr. Feng Hsueh-pel, though declining to give a detailed comment, told a press conference to-day that the Government will take "adequate measures" to control China's wildly fluctuating exchange market.

He called the currency fluctuations "symptoms of a deep-rooted disease, resulting from eight years of Japanese aggression and two years of ever-increasing Communist destruction."

Mr Feng said that the Chinese people must not delude themselves by thinking that the situation can be remedied through changing the name of the Chinese currency and adjusting the exchange rate or customs tariffs. "Only by an early resumption of our reconstruction work and by applying the motto 'hard work and strict economy' can we find the fundamental cure of our anemic condition," he said.

GOVT. CONFIDENT

Mr Feng said that the Government was confident that it could cope with present problems. "Adequate measures are being taken and will be taken," he said. "What these measures are, however, whether they would involve a change in China's gold policy, whether the Central Bank of China would continue to sell gold in an effort to stabilize the currency, whether the currency would be devalued, whether a substitute would be worked out for the export subsidy plan or whether any other plan would be instituted—Mr Feng refused to comment.

Any reply to such questions, he said, would without fail directly affect the market, and added: "This year will be the most difficult on the road to economic convalescence."

Meanwhile, although prices of gold-bars and United States dollars sharply declined in Nanking to-day, there was no fall in commodity prices. Crowds struggle in front of flour shops to be the first in line, while first grade rice virtually disappeared from the market with the maximum purchase of only 17 pounds possible. —Reuter.

EDITORIAL

China's Other Sorrow

IF China's only sorrow were the Yellow River her present and future worries would be bearable. Nature has methods of obliterating the scars left by her fury, but the wounds caused by man's avarice, stupidity and immoral behaviour can never be completely healed. China's worst enemy to-day is herself: her disinterested intellectuals acknowledge it, and her genuine friends grieve over it. It gives no pleasure to reach this conclusion, but it cannot be denied in the light of the continual manifestations of the country's political and moral bankruptcy.

The total collapse of Chinese currency during the past 48 hours, climaxing an insidious and brutal campaign, is a classic example. It is true that a powerful black market of currency speculators and manipulators has been dominating both internal and external trade and commercial transactions for 16 months, but to claim that this is the sole factor contributing to China's present tribulation is merely to admit the impotency of the government to deal with the situation. More perturbing is the apparent unwillingness to take sufficiently strong and effective action to protect the economic stability of the people. For this is the crux of the existing crisis. Little sympathy will be wasted on that parasitic minority, the speculators and manipulators. If they are caught in their own financial meshes, they deserve nothing better. It is the helpless "little man", on a monthly salary, who has to put all his economic trust in principles and powers, who is the real sufferer. It is he who finds the everyday necessities of life placed beyond his reach; who doesn't know from day to day whether the purchasing power of his pay envelope will be one-tenth, one-hundredth or one-thousandth of its face value; who faces the prospect of unemployment, dispossession and the dozen other effects of national economic chaos.

Neither does the remedy, at least in China, appear to reside in any accepted economic formula. It doesn't seem to matter twofold whether gold is restricted; whether it is made freely available; whether it is nationalized. One of China's sorrows to-day is that any action is almost certain to have the same result—instability, chaos, crisis. China's crying need is an administrative system that has for its foundations honesty, selflessness, the strength of purpose, and the will to implement the tenet that the welfare of the community comes before the individual.

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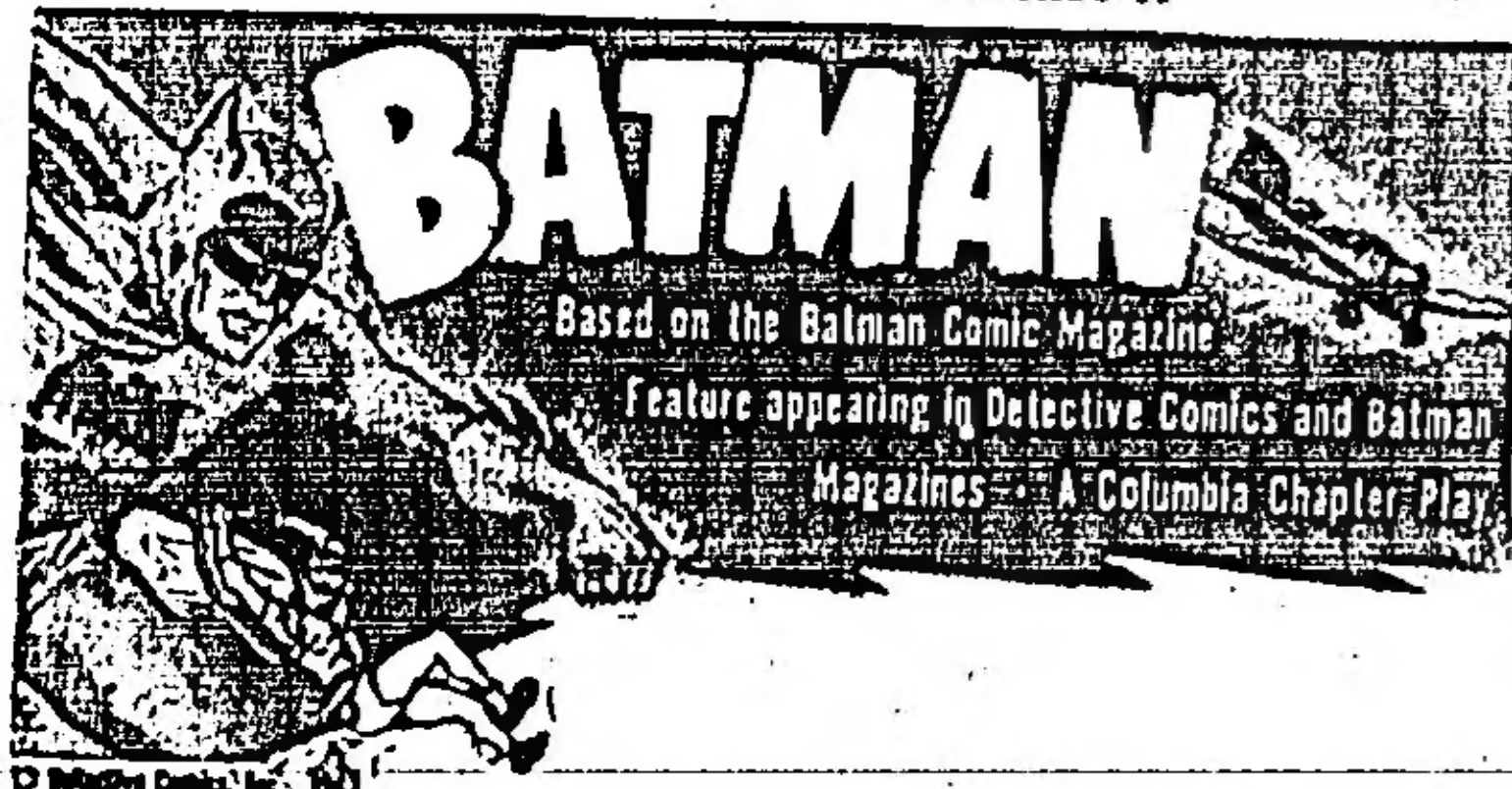
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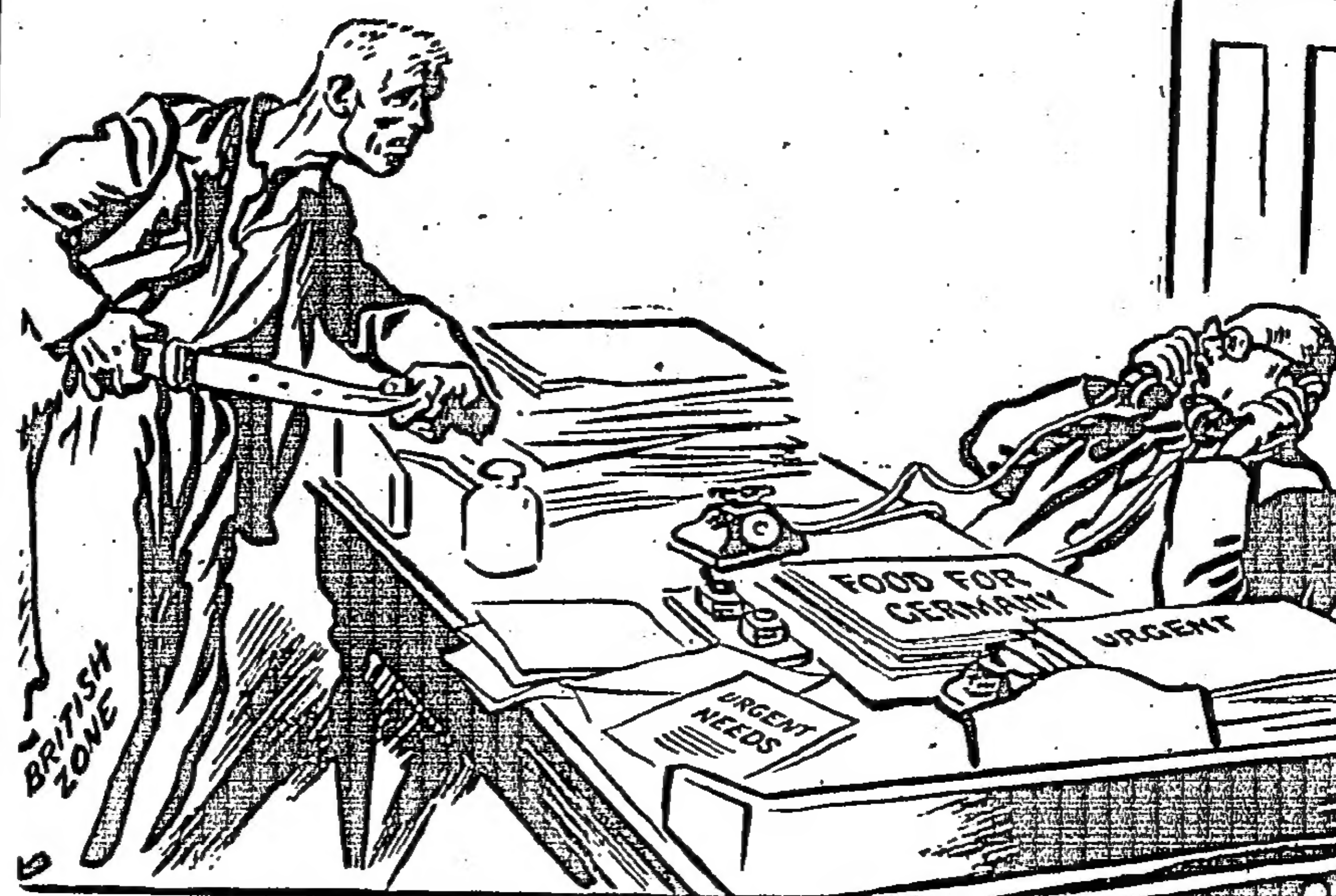
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25 YEARS OF THE BRITISH LEGION

From Our London Correspondent

THE story of the British Legion's twenty-five busy and useful years of existence is told most vividly in the exhibition at the Central Hall, London, which was opened by Major-General the Earl of Athlone the other day. Four Cabinet Ministers and a number of senior officers of the three Services, including Lt. Gen. Sir Oliver Leese and Major-General R. E. Urquhart, were present at the opening ceremony.

Object of the exhibition is to stress the significance of this great organisation, which in the last quarter of a century has exercised a potent influence on the life of the nation, and to demonstrate to all who served in the Armed Forces and the Merchant Navy, the worth, while job the Legion is doing to-day. The Legion has now more than a million members and over seven thousand branches in Britain alone. Their purpose is not just to have pleasant social gatherings and bun fights.

Half a million pounds a year is spent on Service work but this represents only a small portion of the Legion's activities. It considers it infinitely more satisfactory to start a man on a career, or set him up in business with the aid of a loan and expert advice than to give him a sum of money to tide him over a difficult period.

Spread throughout the country are 4,000 Service committees, consisting of prominent businessmen who, by reason of their calling, can and do apply their experience to solving the problems brought to them by ex-Service men and women members in their districts.

In addition, the Legion is consulted by Government and local authorities on all matters concerning the welfare of ex-service people. Legion representatives are to be found on all Advisory Committees dealing with pensions, employment and other questions of social service.

The Legion, too, is the largest employer of disabled men in Britain, with its factories at Richmond, Warminster and Llanwrtyd Wells. It has set up Sanatoria Settlements near Malden, at Bournemouth, and near Colchester for the treatment and complete rehabilitation of tuberculous patients and their families. Preston Hall, in Kent, is a village in itself, with its own industries. A country home for aged, infirm and lonely ex-servicemen has been opened at Westgate-on-Sea, and recently, Churchill Court, at Sevenoaks, was given to the Legion for convalescents of World War II as a memorial to the wartime leadership of Mr. Churchill. There are 400 Haig Homes, dwellings for the disabled and families of the fallen at rents they can afford, and postwar building plans are extensive.

The Legion also runs a taxi-drivers' school, controls car parks in 70 cities and towns in England and Wales, at which 400 disabled

men are on duty, and provides basic training in seamanship to fatherless sons of ex-service men on the Stork Training Ship, which is moored in the Thames.

During the war years, members of the Legion took the initiative in most of the major activities. The Home Guard in its original form of LDV was almost entirely founded on Legion branches. The ARP Services, too, were largely organised by the Legion, as was the first police reserve. Branches of the Women's Section played a leading part in the evacuation of children and the accommodation in the country.

Some of these activities, such as the famous poppy factory at Richmond, the work of the Preston Hall patient settlers, and leather handbags, toys and goods made by badly disabled ex-service men in their own homes and sold through the agency of the Legion, are shown at the exhibition stands.

Others demonstrate the enterprise of demobilised ex-servicemen and women returning to civil life, or work undertaken in prisoner of war camps.

When Victor W. Croxford, of Westcliffe-on-Sea, was taken prisoner at Dunkirk and found himself in Stalag VIIIB he determined to provide himself with an occupation which would not only relieve his own boredom, but that of his fellow prisoners. He established himself as editor, reporter and printer of a daily news sheet which served as a light-hearted commentary on the daily happenings of camp life, a task he maintained through five years behind barbed wire. It was only interrupted when he and his comrades were forced to march from the Polish border to a fresh camp at Munich, a journey which took 13 weeks and 3 days. In order to preserve his precious manuscripts, he discarded all but the bare essentials of clothing and bedding which had to be carried by each man.

The daily diary he kept of his experiences together with extracts and examples of the camp newspaper, are on view at the exhibition. Meanwhile, on the other side of the world, Cpl. Charles Thrale, of the 1st Bn. Cambridgeshire Regt., captured at Singapore, with the same problem of overcoming mental stagnation, turned his hand to painting. He got his paper as best he could, used his own hair for brushes, and mixed his colours from jungle plants, boiling the coloured backs of old books or getting the dye from rags.

The Nips confiscated 80 of his pictures, but the rest he hid, and they are now on view. Some depict the emaciated bodies of his friends, and one was his idea of the baby daughter he had never seen.

There is also an attractive display of aquariums, shown by an ex-Serviceman who lost a leg at Dunkirk. The Legion helped him to

establish his own business, where he specialises in supplying complete "fish tanks" stocked with rare and exotic species.

Another stand gives an insight into the business of an ex-serviceman. William Chesson, who is now running a detective agency. It is stated that "while waiting for a ship in the U.S.A. he took a course in detection and obtained a diploma," and he demonstrated a fool-proof system of identification by finger prints and card register.

Miss N. M. June Whyte, of Rosario Cottage, The Tower Wren, is there too. She puts model ships in bottles, and together with carving various objects such as cigarette boxes in wood is making quite a good thing out of it.

There is also A. G. Mewman of Clapham, an expert engraver, and a unique collection of postage stamps of all the Japanese-occupied countries liberated by the 14th Army, including many of the occupation issues—the work of Captain Gardner of Wimbledon, R.F.C. pilot of World War I and an Artillery Officer during 39-45.

Altogether, the exhibition, which also includes film shows and concerts, and ex-servicemen's reunions in the evenings, provides a most comprehensive picture of this huge organisation and a magnificent demonstration of human comradeship and self-help.

According To Culbertson

(Copyright, 1947, by Ely Culbertson)

Very few players short of expert rank can plan and execute squeeze plays, but in to-day's deal the declarer should have "fallen into" one of these trick-winning manoeuvres. South, dealer.

NORTH		EAST	
♠ 8 7 6		♠ 10 9 8 7	
♥ 5 4		♥ 10 9 8 7	
♦ 8 5 4 3		♦ 10 9 8 7	
♣ K Q J 10		♣ K Q J 10	
WEST		SOUTH	
♠ K Q J 9 8		♠ A 8 7 6	
♥ 9 8 7		♥ A 8 7 6	
♦ 9 8 7		♦ A 8 7 6	
♣ 7 5 3 2		♣ A 8 7 6	

The bidding:
South 1♠, West 2♠, East 3♠, South 4♠.

Exception may be taken to North's jump to the slam, but the fact is that if anyone "overbid" slightly, it was South, who might well have been satisfied to open the auction with two instead of three no trump. This does not mean that there was anything wrong with the final con-

ATOMIC VIP

by Raymond Blackburn, M.P.

IT took a journey to Chicago on my part and a journey to Göttingen, in Germany, by a friend to find out the truth about Dr. Hahn. But now I know it and I can tell it to you—and, I hope, to the Russians, who are very evidently barking up the wrong tree.

Otto Hahn is the German atomic scientist who first split the uranium atom. He did so in 1938 at the Kaiser Wilhelm Institute in Berlin, and his experiment was published to the world.

It is certain that if Hitler had prevented the publication of Hahn's (and Strassman's) discovery, America could not have developed the atomic bomb by 1945. In other words, Hahn indirectly saved hundreds of thousands of Allied lives.

So Hahn is a V.I.P., a Very Important Personage—although he may not be listed as such in "Who's Who."

His discovery was quickly picked up by scientists in Denmark, Norway, France, Britain and the United States. These scientists then started on the trail that finally led to the atomic bomb and is now leading, as you know, to other developments.

There are two rumours about Hahn, the first of which the Russians have now repeated. The first rumour is that he is working in Britain on the production of atomic bombs. This rumour is entirely untrue.

FORBIDDEN WORK

MY friend (who is a local leader of the Labour Party and a scientist) recently spent an evening with Hahn at Göttingen. Hahn is very disillusioned. He would like to have more work to do, but the British authorities will not let him go ahead with nuclear research on any substantial scale.

I asked the Prime Minister a question about Hahn some time ago and the answer made it plain that Hahn would be permitted to proceed with such research only if the Allied Control Council agreed. The Russians must surely know this.

The second rumour was that Hahn's record during Fascism was none too good. I went to great pains to ascertain the truth about this. Lise Meitner, the brilliant Jewish refugee scientist who first pointed out in Copenhagen the great significance of Hahn's discovery, told me that she had never made allegations of pro-Fascism against Hahn, which had been printed in the American Press. She knew nothing against him.

Then in Chicago I met Dr. James Franck, a refugee German atomic scientist who had known Hahn for twenty or thirty years. He did not categorically state that Hahn had never had, or expressed, any sympathy with Fascism.

Hahn is a scientist who lives in the scientist's proverbial ivory tower. He abhors politicians and all their works.

Even more interesting than this is the truth about the work Hahn and his friends were doing in Germany under Hitler. There is no truth whatever in the widely held view that the Germans were trying to produce atomic bombs. They did not even realise that atomic bombs were possible. Dr. Franck's statements on

this were confirmed by Professor Hogness, of Chicago University, whose job it was to find out the state of German nuclear research.

As a matter of fact, Franck and Hogness do not believe that Hahn and his friends were really trying hard to produce weapons at all. But they were anxious to build an atomic "pile" or furnace for the production of atomic energy. Permission to use precious materials could be obtained only if a warlike object was in view.

DEATH DUST

SO the German atomic scientists said that atomic energy could be generated for the purpose of producing radio-active dust.

Atomic "piles" produce enormous quantities of radio-active by-products. Turn these into a fine dust and they could be used as a weapon almost as terrible as the atomic bomb itself.

There is no defence to radio-active dust except to evacuate the area contaminated. It destroys all living things—human beings, cats, dogs and even microbes. You could breathe radio-active dust into your system for hours without realising that you were doing so.

This is the weapon to which Professor Joliot-Curie, the great French atomic scientist, was referring when he predicted that a war might be going on for some time before the people attacked even realised they were being attacked.

But Hahn and his friends had got nowhere near producing radio-active dust bombs or rockets. Yet it is important to remember that such weapons might well be created with the expenditure of less time, capital and labour than are required for atomic bombs.

Radio-active dust may well be one of the weapons of mass destruction which the scientists can now produce. Leading American and British scientists have assured me that this is so.

JAPS' MISTAKES

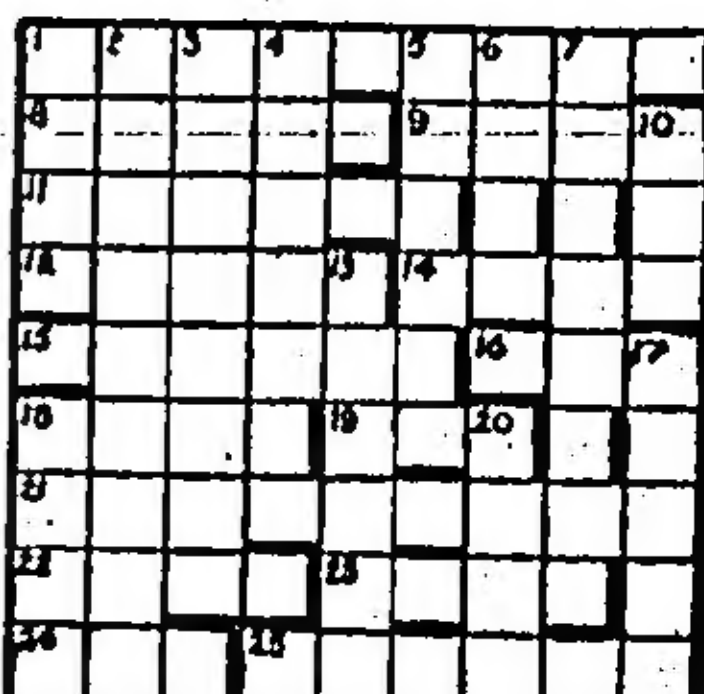
STRANGELY enough, Japan was not working on the production of atomic bombs. Their able atomic scientists, Professors Nishina and Sagane, knew all about Hahn's discovery and considered the possibility of building atomic bombs. But somewhere they made serious mistakes. In their calculations and in the construction of atomic bombs could not be made.

This information was obtained for America by President Compton, of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, who was General MacArthur's adviser on the subject.

In the field of nuclear physics, British and American scientists proved far superior to the scientists of totalitarian countries. They can, and will, maintain their lead in this respect without enlisting the support of German scientists.

But we see no reason why Dr. Hahn and his friends should not be employed on work in this field which can help to extend man's knowledge of the many undiscovered secrets of the atom.

CROSSWORD



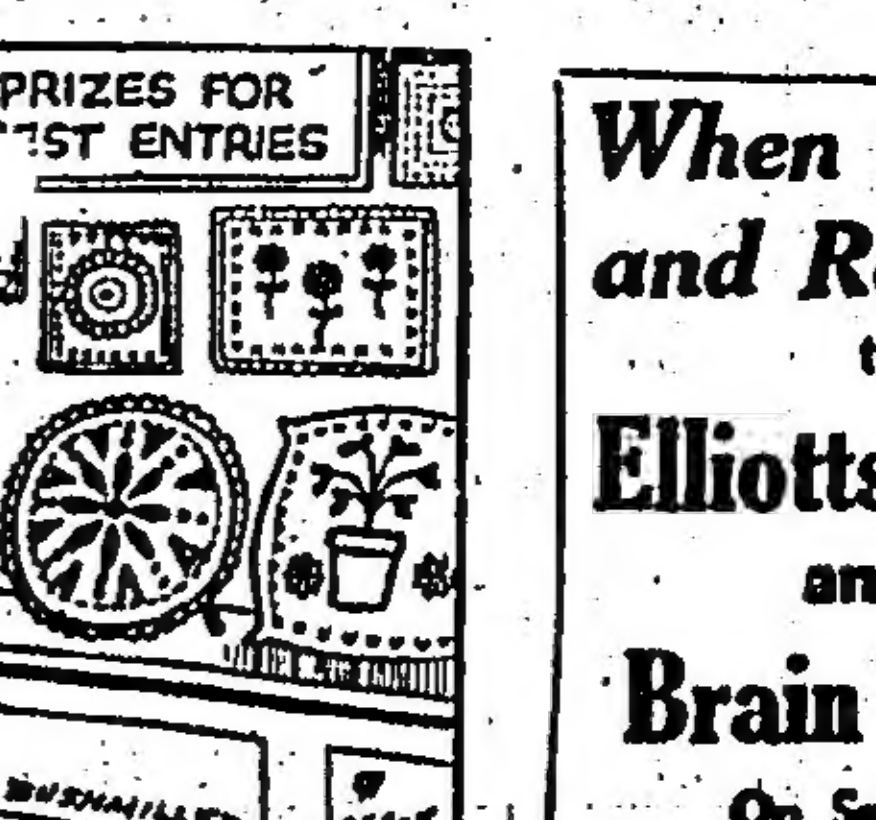
- Across
1. Should not (anag.). (10)
 2. Stan of native clerks in India. (6)
 3. A signal nonant leads it, but you leave out "I". (4)
 4. Quantitative. (6)
 5. The Great Hall we say. (5)
 6. Draw together. (6)
 7. The first of the duck. (6)
 8. It's a berused state. (3)
 9. Taps with horns on? (4)
 10. Tactically over. (4)
 11. The person to summon the insect to appear. (9)
 12. They put the finish on good legs. (4)
 13. Hurl. (4)
 14. This bird he are responsible for the girl. (6)
- Down
1. Where you will find the 1 Across assembled. (6)
 2. See Tom let the broken eggs be used. (6)
 3. A mute tall for a change is the end. (6)
 4. The clearing of woodland for agricultural purposes. (7)
 5. The silly game is a. (10)
 6. It's just a thin clintment. (8)
 7. A little drop that might add up. (10)
 8. Throw out as a lance. (6)
 9. Extreme. (6)
 10. Things are stored here to be thin. (8)
 11. REEL. (4)

Solution of yesterday's puzzle: Across: 1. Vespene; 2. Urn; 3. Head; 4. Moon; 5. Hoot; 6. Enchance; 7. In; 8. Inmate; 9. In; 10. Down; 11. Down; 12. Down; 13. Down; 14. Down; 15. Down; 16. Down; 17. Down; 18. Down; 19. Down; 20. Down.

NANCY Extra Fancy



By Ernie Bushmiller



Women BEAUTY ARTS

This Space Every Day
By LOIS LEEDS



Posed by Joan Caulfield for Lois Leeds.
Outdoor sports put "roses in your cheeks" and Star Shine in your eyes!

STAR SHINE

All-American girl is Joan Caulfield, who appears in Paramount's picture, "Blue Skies." Joan passes up night clubs and goes in for sports. This is a very good idea for you and you, even though you don't live in sunny California and you aren't in the movies! Sports to suit your life and your climate, will put you in that glamorous girl group—All-American!

It's Back! Black taffeta, which makes such a lovely rustle, is back in fashion again. Lovely Irene Dunne has a bustle-back black taffeta for a dinner dress. Here's an idea for you!

Green is New! A Deep Emerald Green, such as was popular in the Victorian era, is very, very "new!" Ginny Simms wears a print with an Emerald Green background. The skirt is draped in the new and flattering-to-your figure fashion. Ginny wears Black accessories and Scarlet lips and fingertips.

Hats! A famous blonde star has a big Black satin catbow to wear with Black afternoon dresses. It is draped with sequin-spangled tulle and you and YOU would look wonderful in such a hat!

Minute Makeup by GABRIELLE



If you want Eye Glamour, try using a very little Brown cream eyeshadow on your eye. Smooth it up toward the eyebrows. Use this eyeshadow cream on the eyelids instead of mascara. Brush your eyebrows with oil to give them a gleam. If the lashes are very Black, use Black eyelash cream instead of Brown eyeshadow for the lashes.

Another hat in the collection of this star is a Butterscotch (sounds good!) velvet sailor, with a puffed crown banded in Gold ribbon. Teen-er! Teen Age songstress, Anita Gordon, out on a "very special date" wore a Black wool coat fashioned in flaring-skirt style, with a little, high, round collar. She wore Pink gloves and, no doubt—Pink lipstick!

GAY NOTE



White ranula flowers, mounted on hairpins, top the crown and edge the trim of a navy blue felt model.

BALINESE TOUCH

By Dorothy Roe

The Balinese influence is strong in the collection of Joset Walker, of the house of David Goodstein, showing next summer's styles in January zero weather in New York recently for the benefit of the visiting fashion press.

Miss Walker, who looks something like a movie glamour girl herself, goes in for Balinese prints in sarong styles for beach wear, and varies these with dramatic background and checkerboard prints for strictly play suits.

Her series of pure silk Shantung dresses and suits are done in Jewel colours, handled with a discreet and well-bred touch, with style news in double pocket-flap treatments, new square necklines and rounded shoulder lines.—Associated Press.

SIDE GLANCES

By Galbraith



"The grades aren't so low that Dad will cut off my allowance, and not high enough to make me unpopular with my friends—a perfect report card!"

MOVE TO LEGALISE TEST-TUBE BABIES

The Swedish Medical Board is pushing through Parliament a proposal to legalise test-tube babies. The action has been met with considerable comment.

As a matter of fact, there is no law in Sweden listing test-tube babies as illegal. There is just no law of any kind regarding this unusual experiment and medical leaders have decided now that they want the entire thing on a legal basis before they continue in their work.

There is terrific interest in Sweden toward the industry upon which experiments in artificial insemination, not only by would-be mothers, but also by industrialists and government leaders.

Sweden is in a bad way as regards her population. Easily able to support twice the present number of 3,000,000, the Swedes are so busy they haven't time to increase their population.

No Time For Babies

That is true. So great is the demand of industry upon labour that both men and women are labouring outside the home that many do not have time to have babies.

Therefore, industry and government are inclined to think that test tube babies for single women who missed marriage would be just the thing.

The medical profession believes, of course, it is the acceptable way to introduce children into the home of a couple where the husband is sterile and where children are wanted.

Test tube babies certainly are not going to solve immediately Sweden's population and, incidentally, labour problem. But they might make a lot of childless persons happy.

Not Instant Success

This is the attitude of the medical profession as a whole. Says Professor A. Westman, a leader in test tube baby experiments: "I have found that childless married women take the initiative in requesting test tube babies. I have learned, too, that many women in business and professions, who never took the time to get married, desire children. Artificial insemination is the answer to their problem."

Dr Per Wetterdal, laboratory specialist, said he has experimented with 1200 childless marriages. He added, however, that he and other Swedish physicians have not had the success in such experiments as the physicians of America.

"Even today artificial insemination is not an instant success," he said.

GOOD NEWS FOR BALD PEOPLE

"Bald Head Row," and the traditional front row of the orchestra stalls joke at leg shows, will go into the discard if experiments by a Frenchman, M. C. Viola, to restore hair are as successful as he hopes.

M. Viola believes that he has discovered an infallible method of growing hair on denuded scalps.

His formula is the result of 18 years' research to find a "sedative" herb to reactivate the "sleeping" nerves of the scalp.

He advertised for a businessman of "good reputation" to try the method free of charge.

Jean Lavigne (48), a commercial traveller, of Epinal, France, offered himself as a human guinea pig and received two treatments in Viola's laboratory.

Lavigne was horrified by the publicity attending his innocent desire to recover his youthful head of hair.

Viola then promised that the identity of any new volunteer would be kept secret, and a Swiss and an American stepped forward. They have been receiving applications of the hair-restoring herb in the privacy of the inventor's laboratory.

Both cautiously report the burgeoning of a half-inch fuzz on scalps; hitherto destitute of any growth for many years.

Viola has not yet made sweeping claims for his discovery. He is confident of success, but he will continue the experimental applications on his subjects until the hair really sprouts.

Then he expects the world's "Legion of the Bald" to beat a path to his door.

BROTHER TO FIGHT WILL OF SISTER

Mrs Mary Sheldon Lyon, descendant of a pioneer American family, bequeathed the residue of her US\$500,000 estate to two organisations maintained by Father Divine, the negro cult leader.

Mrs Lyon, who was 85 when she died on October 10, left her brother only \$500.

He is fighting the will on the ground that it is a fraudulent document, obtained as a result of a conspiracy.

The brother was in charge of the American Red Cross in North Africa during the war.

The late Mrs Lyon left her negro maid, Patience Budd, \$2,500, a Packard car, clothing, jewellery, household furniture and a four-poster antique bed.

LANCASHIRE NEWSLETTER

By a Special Correspondent

Weather in Lancashire has been much milder of late and the coal situation is easier, so much so that most mills and foundries are back to normal working. It must be said, however, that the shortage while it lasted has had a very adverse effect on the drive for exports which was well under way.

Beer, also is in better supply, though there are suggestions that in view of the demands of barmen and barmaids for improved conditions the price of beer may be raised. The present vault prices are mild ones, but a pint, bitter mild, maintains its pre-budget, or rather pre-last-cut quality, but there is a lot of grumbling among the bitter drinkers.

Oldham, after all, did not open its public gallery to a party of German prisoners of war from a nearby camp, as I indicated recently was to happen. At the last moment a member of the Council threatened, it is understood, to make a protest at the meeting if the Germans were present, and as it was felt that such a protest would be a disservice to the Commandant was advised to cancel the visit.

Record Birthrate

That 1946 established the highest birthrate for 24 years is matter for pride not only to the Oldham, medical officer of health but also to the townfolk. Dr T. J. Chalmers Keddie, the M.O.H., in his annual report gives the rate as 18.68 per 1,000 of the population, the number of births being 2,080. The previous highest rate was 19.03 in 1922. Alongside this, Dr A. H. Barber, of Boundary Park General Hospital, reporting on the maternity figures there, says the most pleasing feature was the extremely low maternal death rate. Of the 2,708 women confined there only one died.

Under the instruction of one of their officers, Sub-Lt. R. Carter, who was fencing instructor at the Royal Marines Physical Training School at Deal during the war, Ashton Sea Cadets are thoroughly enjoying instruction in fencing. "It teaches them mental agility, quickness of eye, hand and foot," says Mr. Carter. "They are shaping very well, and in about 18 months we should have the makings of a fencing team ready to take on any corners."

Officially "in the dark" about the desire of Littlemoor parish to be amalgamated with the township in the event of the partition of Limehurst Rural district, Droydsden is seeking information from the Limehurst Council and the County Council. Apparently Littlemoor prefers amalgamation with Droydsden rather than with Ashton. Oldham has claims on a portion of the Limehurst area, which, the latter Council opposes. Limehurst, however, does not object to Woodhouse's preference for the urban area of Fallsworth. Result of talks now proceeding will go to the Boundary Commissioners.

Ex-service Women Learn

Ex-service women are back at school again at Southport Technical College. Some 20 of them have started a six-months' full-time course in shorthand, typing and commercial subjects. Their average age is 23 and most of them were Wrens, ATS, or WAAFs until a few weeks ago.

Southport Council have decided that no terraced houses will be built on the Radnor drive and Lytham Road housing estates. Only semi-detached houses are to go up there. The Council also in effort to help local builders is giving a negotiated price practice for house erection, and now will advertise for tenders.

While on the subject of housing, it is interesting to note that Manchester still leads the great cities in the housing race. Returns up to November show that Manchester has completed 475 municipally built houses. Another 1,003 are under construction. Private enterprise built 34 permanent and another 252 are under construction.

Manchester Redevelopment

Manchester Corporation have announced their intention to clear up and redevelop nearly seven acres of land in the centre of the city. The area bounded by Deansgate, Victoria Street, Cathedral Yard, Cathedral Street, Cannon Street, Corporation Street, Cromford Court, Market Street, and buildings to the north of Barton Square and Barton Arcade were included in the blitzed site priority list issued some months ago. Interested property owners have two months in which to register their claims with the Council.

First woman in Britain to start her own airline is Mrs. Eugenie Newman of Liverpool. She already has one in the air and expects to have another in February. Her ambition is to operate services in many parts of the world. Her first trip will be 7,300 miles to Johannesburg with five passengers, who include an Isle of Man man and his wife and child, each of whom will pay a fare of £225 for the trip. Mrs. Newman has travelled the world, has worked in the United States and been a broadcaster in New York.



ATOM WILL NOT SMASH THE WORLD

There is an element in the earth which will prevent the world from being blown to bits by an atomic explosion. These reassuring words were told to a correspondent by Raymond Gregoire, 40-year-old lecturer at the world-famous Paris Institute of Radium.

He explained that the element, Boron, which is found everywhere in the earth, is a severely limiting factor to a cosmic explosion by its slowing effect on atomic fission.

Gregoire regarded the "end of the world" talk about atom bombs as highly unhealthy, anti-scientific propaganda.

He lamented that progress in atomic research is prejudiced by the secrecy maintained by competing nations, but pointed out that the possibility of secret experiments at an advanced stage such as atomic explosions in remote areas could be "watched" by sensitive apparatus located in a neighbouring country.

French activities in nuclear research and their complete reorganisation were described by Gregoire, massive and poorly dressed, in the historic Radium Institute founded by the late Madame Curie.

This institute is now under the direction of her daughter Irene, who married the famous atom-scientist, Frederic Joliot. The latter was the first, in 1939, to discover that the fission of an uranium atom was an explosive one.

Joliot is now working in the High-Commissariat of Atomic Research, set up by the French Government after the history-making explosion at Hiroshima. This state institution, which occupies the obsolete Châtillon Fort in the eastern outskirts of Paris, has the significant budget of 500,000,000 francs.

Germans Made Peanut Seller Negro King

The rise and fall of a peanut-seller—that (in a nutshell) is the biography of dusky, six-foot tall, Mamadou Kane, who stepped out of the back streets of Paris to become self-crowned King of the Seneguese negroes, under the German occupation.

In 1939, Kane was selling peanuts in Paris. In 1941 he so convinced the Germans that he commanded the loyalty of the Seneguese troops that for three years he lived in the lap of luxury, with plenty of servants and cash limousines.

So great was his magnificence that at one time he commanded audiences with Laval and Petain. His fall came in May, 1946, when he was sentenced to five years' goal for being a collaborator.

Wave Came At Judge. Recently Kane, still serving his sentence, appeared before a Paris court for the second time to give evidence against M. Luc Banchelin, his former lawyer, and his pretty blonde secretary, Mile. Rose Boree, whom he accuses of embezzlement.

Royal habits die hard, so when Kane, still wearing his magnificent orange turban and trimmings, thought that justice was not being disposed in his direction, he waved his cane at the judge. The judge ordered him out of court.

"King" Kane made a very un-regal exit, shouting at the top of his voice: "I go with my head high and say: Vive La France—anyway."

Rupert and Ninky—34



The Toy Scout goes straight to the office of Santa Claus and explains the situation. "Rupert," he says, "there's my Ninky!" "Rupert suddenly as he catches sight of his doll donkey. "Hallo, Rupert," says the old gentleman. "I've got a question for you. What's it made of? How does it work? The Toy Scout tells me that it jumps, but, though I've poked it and prodded it, it won't move at all for me." "I can't tell you much," says Rupert. "It doesn't seem to work to any rules!"

KINGS BY POPULAR REQUEST
TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.10, 7.15 & 9.15 P.M.

THRILLING TOGETHER!
VAN JOHNSON
Esther WILLIAMS

THRILL OF A ROMANCE
IN TECHNICOLOR

Introducing
THE METROPOLITAN OPERA STAR
LAURITZ MELCHIOR
TOMMY DORSEY And His ORCHESTRA

ALSO LATEST CAUMONT BRITISH NEWS
COMMENCING SATURDAY

THE HARVEY GIRLS
IN TECHNICOLOR

MARIA MONTEZ **SUSANNA FOSTER**
JACK OAKIE **TURHAN BEY**

BOWERY TO BROADWAY

ORIENTAL
SHOWING TO-DAY: 2.30-5.15-7.15-9.15 P.M.
TO FILL YOUR EYES... TO THRILL YOUR HEART!
THE SCREEN'S MOST LOVABLE MUSICAL!

MARIA MONTEZ **SUSANNA FOSTER**
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BOWERY TO BROADWAY

Next Change: "SNOW WHITE" in Technicolor

ALHAMBRA TO-DAY & TO-MORROW
2.30, 5.20, 7.20 & 9.20 P.M.

SHOCKING AND SENSATIONAL... BUT EVERY BIT OF IT TRUE!

THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES

ALL about the underground plans of the German Highways... All about the American military system with mothers of nameless children... with wives who were to look their husbands in the eye... with traitors, families, friends...

GEORGE COULOURIS • **STANLEY RIDGES**
OLA MASTEN • **CHAS. ESMOND** • **NANCY GATES** • **MORIS CARNOVSKY** • **GAVIN MUR**
PAUL GUILFOTTE

NEXT CHANGE! Gary COOPER in "THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES"

BIG TAXES BLAMED FOR JEWELLERY BACK MARKET

The black market in jewels, which is crippling the British jewellery trade, gains its encouragement from the imposition of a 100 per cent purchase tax, according to a Board of Trade report.

The tax, the report states, not only restricts sales to foreign visitors, but also draws skilled workers away from established firms.

These workers set up on their own and make diamond engagement rings and other pieces of high-grade jewellery which they dispose of for cash in a manner which does not suffer the purchase tax.

An unprecedented boom is likely in the American trade, and the British manufacturers, eager to meet this, want to form a central body to plan future developments.

Prices soar. Black market workers, the investigators report, may be getting good money, but they are frequently working under conditions which make production inefficient and are entirely unhealthy.

There is also a temptation among reputable dealers to transact cash sales without making proper book entries.

With purchase tax and the increased cost of production and distribution, an article which before the war could be bought for £100 now costs £250.

A silver toilet set is taxed 100 per cent, while a stainless steel toilet costing as much, or more, is free of tax.

The Private Life of a Public Hero!
It's the Great American Story

GARY COOPER
THE PRIDE OF THE YANKEES

Directed by SAM WOOD
Released through RKO RADIO

With Velma and Yolande, Ray Noble and his Orchestra. Screen Play by Joe Swickard and Thomas J. Mankiewicz. Original Story by Fred Gilpin.

STARTS SATURDAY
at the
ALHAMBRA

